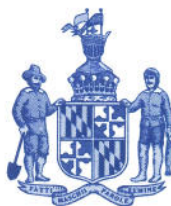


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**For Immediate Release**

**June 18, 2009**

**Timothy Rabalais, Chairman of Campaign Finance Committee,  
“Progress for the People,” Charged Criminally**

State Prosecutor, Robert A. Rohrbaugh, has announced that Timothy Rabalais, chairman for the campaign finance committee known as Progress for the People, was found guilty today of one count of Felony Theft as a result of an investigation into the improper use of funds belonging to that committee.

The Grand Jury of Prince George’s County indicted Mr. Rabalais, 45, of Brandywine, Maryland, on Felony Theft and Embezzlement as well as two corresponding Election Law violations in March 2009.

State prosecutors told the Court today how, while serving as chairman to the committee, which is a slate committee comprised of Councilwoman Marilyn Bland and Sheriff Michael Jackson, Mr. Rabalais went to the bank on three different occasions asking for blank counter checks rather than simply using the committee’s checkbook which he had access to regularly. He then proceeded to make the three counter checks payable to himself for a total of five thousand dollars between March and April 2007 before being removed from the Committee’s bank account as a signator. By law, campaign finance monies are only to be used to support the candidate or cause of the committee, and not for personal use. No one from the committee gave him permission to take or use the committee’s money for his personal use.

Upon conviction, the Court sentenced Mr. Rabalais to six months incarceration, all suspended, three years of supervised probation, and 250 hours community service. The five thousand dollars which Rabalais took has already been paid back in full to the committee.

For further inquiries, contact Special Agent Shanna Hajdun or Chief Investigator James Cabezas at the State Prosecutor’s Office.